GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1784
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Quality of Bottled Water
Lokhande Shri Sadashiv Kisan;Sahu Shri Tamradhwaj

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has formulated any rules for production and sale of bottled mineral water and soft drink beverages and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether incidents regarding violation of the said parameters, quality and presence of pesticides in bottled water of various brands have been reported recently;
(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard during the last three years;
(d) whether there is any proposal to maintain uniform price of bottled water of all companies and if so, the details thereof; and
(e) whether the Government/BIS proposes to change the parameters of testing bottled water and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) : Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has formulated Indian Standards on Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water which are under mandatory certification under the provisions of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition And Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011.

BIS has also formulated Indian Standard on Carbonated beverages.

(b) & (c) : During the last three years, there has been 2816 number of sample failures reported out of total 15508 samples tested relating to the quality of packaged natural mineral water and packaged drinking water. The details of the same is given in the Annexure. No sample has failed on account of the presence of residue of pesticides.

Soft drink beverage is not under mandatory certification and at present no licence has been granted by BIS for soft drink beverages under BIS certification scheme.

As remedial steps, manufacturer is initially asked to take corrective action to improve their product. In case the corrective action is not satisfactory, stop marking is imposed. If manufacture still does not take appropriate actions, the licence is cancelled.

(d) : The price of Bottled Water is decided by manufacturers/packers/importers.
(e) : All Indian standards including those relating to bottled water and soft drink beverages are periodically reviewed and amended, if required.
*****